

Remarks by Admiral Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Multi-Service Memorial Day Ceremony
Arlington Hall
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Good morning. We are joining here today to honor the men and the women of the intelligence profession who have served their nation courageously in both peace and in war. Because of the nature of their work, their deeds, their glory are generally unknown to all but a few. Whether they are operatives in the field behind enemy lines, whether they are working in a listening post in a friendly country, whether they are analysts here at a headquarters, so much of what they do must be kept secret because there are others who are following behind to do the same thing again. But rather than diminishing the luster of these men and women, when judged against their countrymen whose deeds are well known, it greatly heightens it. For the intelligence profession, both in peace and war, has its "quiet heroes."

In wartime, the intelligence professional is usually the first behind the enemy lines--depending sometimes on his wit, sometimes on luck just to survive. In peacetime, the risks are often just as great as in war. Alone in a hostile country with a job to do and no one to turn to, the intelligence professional must depend upon his expertise, his training, his self-confidence, his nerve, his incredible bravery.

Neither the President nor any battlefield commander can today make sound decisions without the input, without the support of the Intelligence Community. In my opinion, as we enter an era of closer parity in military forces, that input from we in the Intelligence Community to the policymakers and the battlefield commanders of our country, is growing increasingly important. And yet, as profound as that contribution is and will be, it

is usually an anonymous contribution. Anonymous because pieces of information must be blended with other pieces of information to bring out a whole. Anonymous because of the exploits of the people who went out and got the factual data or the techniques of analysis that enabled others to merge that data into meaningful conclusions, must be kept private for the future.

Often the only reward the intelligence professional has is his own personal knowledge of what he has accomplished, his own personal pride in the part he has played and the fact that he has performed his duty and performed it patriotically and well. Thus, while life in the intelligence profession often lacks moments of public glory, it never lacks true heroism. As our President said just a short distance from here in a memorial service a few days ago for the eight Airmen and Marines who lost their lives in attempting to rescue their countrymen in Iran, "The strength of our nation has always lain in the ability of individual Americans to do what we must, each of us, each day, whatever our particular duty is." Let us each this morning rededicate ourselves to that goal that the President has enunciated, and do so in the memory of our comrades who have gone before us and whom we honor here today. Their courage, their valor when duty called is a standard by which we will all be judged. Thank you.

